

Status: Open

Received On: 08/03/2018

Incident Date: 08/03/2018

Received By: VOLPENTESTA GEORGE

Happening Now: No

Primary Category: Odor

Happened Before: Yes

Secondary Category:

Phone: 262-347-5273

Reported By: Personal Matters / Ex. 6

Address: Personal Matters / Ex. 6

Comments: 8/3/2018, 2:15pm - Kendra Fisher, Southeast Region Air Supervisor, told Volpentesta she had received complaint from Conservation Warden Steven Swiertz concerning CLCM. The complainant's name is Personal Matters / Ex. 6. Below is the text of the dispatch note emailed by Warden Swiertz at 2:43pm on 8/3/2018:

08/03/2018 09:57:04 Hotline - Tikalsky

Mid America drum plant in oak creek that recycles old oil drums and other hazardous materials. It has been on the news (Milwaukee Sentinel) and there are investigations going on. Caller says the EPA and DNR and others are involved but not sure who is leading the investigation. Today the smell is particularly bad. Caller lives half mile from it and is used to the smell usually but it is especially bad and strange today." See attached image of dispatch.

Source

Type: Industrial

Location Name: MID-AMERICA STEEL DRUM CO

FID: 241021220

Address: 8570 S Chicago Rd

Oak Creek, WI, 531543599

Inspection

Inspector: VOLPENTESTA GEORGE

Followup Method: Phone Call

Date: 08/06/2018

Result: 8/3/2018, 2:35pm - Called and spoke with Warden Swiertz (phone # 414-335-0289). He said the facility is the Oak Creek Mid America Steel Drum facility and the complainant's name is Personal Matters / Ex. 6. He said he would send incident dispatch note of complaint called in to Hotline. He said the incident number is 000094-5401. See attached dispatch note email.

8/3/2018, 3:00pm - Spoke by phone with the complainant Personal Matters / Ex. 6. He said his address is Personal Matters / Ex. 6 Oak Creek and that his house is about 1/2 mile southwest of facility. He said today at approximately 9:30am, as he was going to his car to leave, he noticed odor he believed was coming from the Mid America Oak Creek facility. He often detects an odor from the facility however today it was unusually strong. He characterized the odor as a burning like odor with a chemically propane grill type odor. He said that he left home for about 5 hours and when he returned he did not detect odor again. I said I would follow up and get back to him. According to:
<https://www.wunderground.com/history/daily/us/wi/milwaukee/KMKE/date/history/daily/us/wi/milwaukee/KMKE/date/2018-8-3>
 at 9:52 am on 8/3/2018 at Mitchel Field in Milwaukee winds were E @ 9mph. See image of weather conditions from Weather Underground website.

8/3/2018, 4:20pm - Called and left message for Kevin Meyer, Plant Manager, Mid America Oak Creek. I indicated a complaint was received concerning odor believed to be coming from the Oak Creek facility at about 9:30am this morning. Asked Meyer to return my call.

8/6/2018, 10:54am - Meyer returned call. He said at 5:00am to 5:30am he and other Mid America personnel arrived at work and could detect an odor outside before they had begun operations at their facility. Meyer said they do not believe odors in complaint were from their facility but were probably from the MMSD-South Shore Reclamation Treatment Plant which is about 1 mile east of complainant's house or possibly some other source east of complainant. Meyer said Mid America operated Drum Reclamation Furnace and other processes between approximately 6:30am and 2:30pm. There were no unusual upsets in operation during period. Meyer said he thought complainant may have chosen their facility to complain about due to stories in the media. I asked Meyer to make sure that all operations are operated correctly to minimize emissions.

8/6/2018, 11:45am - Spoke with Personal Matters / Ex. 6 by phone. Informed him of my conversation with Meyer and that they did not believe they were the source of the odor. I told him that besides Mid America a couple of other sources appeared to be possible contributors to the odors he detected. Beside the MMSD facility mentioned above I mentioned that according to Google Maps a facility named S&P Manufacturing may be a possible source. S&P is a metal fabricating and welding facility. I asked Personal Matters / Ex. 6 to help narrow down the source of odors. I said that next time he detects an odor and the winds are out of the east or northeast if he drives east along Puetz Road he can eliminate any facility that is west of the odor. He said he thought this was a good idea and he would try it. This complaint will be considered closed unless there are further developments.

Documents

TITLE	COMMENT	DATE
Weather Underground Data		08/06/2018
Swiertz Dispatch Email		08/06/2018